

CLAIMS PENDING AS OF 2ND OFFICE ACTION

1. A device comprising:
an internal combustion engine;
an engine control device manually operable to stop operation of the engine;
a fuel tank that provides fuel to the engine, the fuel tank including a vent; and
a fuel vent closure device automatically and electrically operable in response to
the manual operation of the engine control device to substantially seal the vent when the engine
is stopped.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the fuel vent closure device is a valve.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein the fuel vent closure device is electrically actuated
via an electrical actuator.
4. The device of claim 3, wherein the electrical actuator is a stepper motor.
5. The device of claim 3, wherein the electrical actuator is a wax motor.
6. The device of claim 3, wherein the electrical actuator is a solenoid.

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7. The device of claim 1, wherein the engine control device is also manually operable to permit start-up of the engine, and wherein the fuel vent closure device is automatically and electrically operable in response to the manual operation of the engine control device to vent the fuel tank.
8. The device of claim 1, wherein the engine control device is coupled to the ignition circuit and is operable to stop operation of the engine by grounding the ignition circuit.
9. The device of claim 1, wherein the engine control device is remote from the engine and wherein the manual operation of the engine control device causes remote actuation of the vent closure device.
10. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is a lawnmower.
11. The device of claim 10, further including:
 - a blade rotatable by the engine; and
 - a brake automatically operable in response to the manual operation of the engine control device to substantially stop rotation of the blade when the engine is stopped.
12. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is a pressure washer.
13. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is a portable generator.

14. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is an automatic backup power system.
15. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is at least one of a tractor and a riding lawnmower.
16. The device of claim 1, wherein the internal combustion engine is a multi-cylinder engine.
17. The device of claim 1, wherein the internal combustion engine is a single-cylinder engine.
18. The device of claim 1, further comprising:
a fuel shutoff device automatically and electrically operable in response to the manual operation of the engine control device to substantially block the supply of fuel to the engine when the engine is stopped.
19. The device of claim 18, wherein the fuel shutoff device is a valve.
20. The device of claim 18, wherein the fuel vent closure device and the fuel shutoff device are combined into a single assembly.

21. The device of claim 18, wherein the engine control device is also manually operable to permit start-up of the engine, wherein the fuel vent closure device is automatically and electrically operable in response to the manual operation of the engine control device to vent the fuel tank and permit engine start-up, and wherein the fuel shutoff device is automatically and electrically operable in response to the manual operation of the engine control device to unblock the supply of fuel to the engine and permit engine start-up.

22. The device of claim 18, wherein the engine control device is remote from the engine and wherein the manual operation of the engine control device causes remote actuation of the vent closure device and the fuel shutoff device.

23-40 Canceled